

Malcolm X: Black Press Editor

page 3

Art Expo Showcases African-American Art

page 7

National News at a glance

by Robert N. Taylor

Districts drawn to benefit blacks threatened by lawsuits: The number of blacks elected to U.S. Congress jumped from 26 to a record 39 in 1992, primarily the result of congressional districts drawn up to increase the likelihood that a black would be elected. But now those districts face challenges which could destroy them and thus dramatically reduce number of blacks in Congress. The challenges are mostly coming from whites who argue the districts represent a form of race gerrymandering, which discriminates against whites. The key problem is that many of the districts were drawn oddly, in a bid to include as many blacks as possible. But blacks in Congress see the challenges as an anti-black "political epidemic." Georgia's 11th District representative Cynthia McKinney says of these challenges to the districts. The agenda is to turn back the hands of the clock and put minorities back in the back of the bus." The first major legal test comes in March when a federal court in North Carolina will hear a challenge to the newly created, predominantly black, 160-mile-long 12th Congressional District. A ruling in that case could determine whether the districts drawn to benefit blacks politically survive or must be re-drawn. —ATLANTA, GA

Record number of blacks holding elected office: According to a report by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, last year saw the number of blacks holding elected political office reach a record high. The number stands at 8,015. That compared to 7,552 black office holders in 1992 and just 280 in 1965. The Center attributed the increase to the redrawing of district lines at the local, state and congressional levels following the 1990 census. —WASHINGTON, DC

Gary, Indiana looks to riverboat gambling to change image: a bid to reverse economic decline. The title of being the nation's "murder capital," officials in predominantly black Gary, Indiana are turning to riverboat gambling. According to Mayor Thomas Barnes, "Riverboat gambling is our best opportunity in 40 years to unlock the door to job creation and economic opportunity." Gary has been on the decline since the 1970s, but the collapse of the steel industry in the 1980s wrought economic havoc on the city. As conditions worsened, crime increased. (Continued on page 3)

Car dealers charged with fraud, deceptive advertising

NEWARK—As part of a Consumer Affairs probe into deceptive practices by three auto dealerships, Crystal Auto Mall of Greenbrook in Somerset County has been charged with running a bait-and-switch operation and falsifying sales contracts as part of a cover-up after investigators requested the document. Attorney General Deborah T. Poritz and Consumer Affairs Director Emma N. Byrne announced today. Two unrelated dealerships are also charged with violating the Consumer Fraud Act: Autoland on Route 22 in Springfield and Ocean Chevrolet of Toms River, also doing business as Toms River Lincoln Mercury on Route 37.

"We are sending a message to unscrupulous auto dealers that deplorable sales tactics like bait-and-switch advertising will not be tolerated," said Poritz.

"Consumers had no chance of getting a fair deal at these dealerships," said Byrne. "The ads were purposely confusing."

Crystal was charged with four violations of the state's Consumer Fraud Act, including bait-and-switch and deceptive advertising. Autoland is charged with 29 violations, including false and misleading advertising. Ocean Chevrolet is charged with three counts of deceptive advertising. The Attorney General is seeking maximum penalties, costs, and consumer restitution.



CITY News

THE NEW JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

Youth call for Peace in the Streets

page 5

Caught in the Eye of the Storm

As Connie sees it

page 4

Indictments no surprise for Newark

by Connie woodruff

There was little joy in Newark when the announcement that Newark City Councilman-at-Large Rev. Dr. Ralph T. Grant, Jr. and former East Orange Councilman Ralph Harris were indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of corruption for allegedly accepting cash payoffs to help a towing contractor obtain lucrative contracts.

Neither was the indictment particularly surprising since it was well known the U.S. Attorney's Office and the FBI have had an "investigation" going on in Newark for the better part of two years.

U.S. Attorney Michael Chertoff said the three were accused of soliciting "large amounts of money in return for promises to steer towing contracts in Newark and East Orange" to K&K Towing, a now defunct towing company based in Union County.

One indictment named Gary Harris and

Ralph Grant as defendants, charging the councilmen with conspiracy, extortion, mail fraud, interstate travel in aid of racketeering and conspiracy to commit bribery.

Ralph Harris (now known to Gary Harris.) ran unsuccessfully for mayor of East Orange last year. He was a member to the city council. The indictment against him and co-defendant, Ralph Grant, charges that they conspired "to affect commerce by extortion and bribery concerning programs receiving federal funds."

According to authorities, if convicted on all charges, Gary Harris and Grant face up to 65 years in prison and at least \$1 million in fines, while Ralph Harris faces up to 35 years in jail and up to hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines.

While Newark City Hall is generally one of the tightest gossip centers in the State, the day following the swarming indictments, rum was the word from the basement to the third floor council offices.

Later in the day Joseph Hayden, Jr., special counsel to city clerk, Bob Morasco, held a press conference and pledged continued cooperation by the council in the (continuing) probe. He was flanked by West Ward councilman Donald Rice, Councilman-at-Large Donald Tucker, South Ward councilman Donald Bradley and Central Ward Council George Branch.

Tucker views the indictments as only allegations and voiced concern for the families of Grant and Harris. Branch said the indictments brought "some concern" and Bradley thinks the indictments represent only unfounded charges.

The man-in-the-street does not seem to be too shocked. Opinions varied from "all politicians are crooks" to "black elected officials always get it in the neck." All in all not too many people trust elected officials no matter what their race or color.

HARRIS MEETS THE PRESS
Council President Gary Harris held a

press conference late Thursday (Feb 24) afternoon proclaiming his innocence.

"This indictment is an effort by the U.S. Attorney's office to frame me.

The charges are not true and have no basis in fact. We feel it is a concerted effort on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office to discredit me and to assassinate my character, my accomplishments and my family's good name."

Members of the press invited to cover the conference, were given a packet of information containing a copy of Harris' address, a biographical sketch of Harris and former Mayor Kenneth Gibson on state charges more than a decade ago.

The packet also included an article titled "The Witch Hunt" which alleged that several high-ranking black officials were indicted due to a plot to discredit them as a group.

Former Mayor Ken Gibson, who attends few public events in Newark, although his (Continued on page 10)



Student recalls visit to Goree slave house

A time of laughter, welcome, tears and learning

by Adrienne George-Bourne

Adrienne George-Bourne is a sophomore at the University of the District of Columbia where she is preparing for a writing career. Last year, she wrote one of seven winning essays, in a national contest sponsored by Pepsi-Cola Company, on "Increased Political Participation. The Most Significant Contribution to Civil Rights in the Last 20 Years." The prize was a seven-day, all expense paid trip for the seven writers—with one guest each—to the West African nation of Senegal.

George-Bourne writes of her experience: "They fed, clothed and adorned us. They brayed my hair and insisted that I was one of theirs. They entrusted me with their most precious possessions—the children.

The warmth of the Wolof people, expressed in the welcome for the visiting African Americans, made me feel that the

Senegalese had anticipated our return to Africa. Our arrival in their village, therefore, triggered their very special welcome.

There was a pride in this village of sturdy, muscular fishermen who paddle long, brightly-painted wooden boats out to sea. The boats return with large catches to a nation devoted to its national dish called *thieboudienne* (pronounced chebbuin), a daily meal of fish, rice, cabbage and tomatoes. Trade and commerce is very much a part of their lives inside and outside of the village.

Clusters of people like the newly-paved highway north to Dakar. Many are selling and/or buying mangoes, oranges, bananas and coconuts, among other produce. This makes for a busy, colorful and noisy marketplace that stretches for miles.

Dakar is a city in constant motion. Speeding Peugeot and Renaults slow down to make room for small herds of cattle, goats and (Continued on page 3)

Muslims request a double feature

An open letter to The Governor of the State of New Jersey

Dear Honorable Governor Christine Todd-Whitman,

May this letter find you and your family in the best of health and spirit.

We applaud your efforts to take aim at the forces of hate as stated in the Newark Star-Ledger, Friday, February 18, "Whitman takes aim at 'hateful ideas'." In addition, your campaign on the "teaching of tolerance" with the feature movie presentation of *Schindler's List* on February 28, is a welcomed attempt to make the public aware of the past offenses committed against humanity.

As the Honorable Louis Farrakhan stated in a recent article, Why is it that we can have a *Schindler's List*, but there is nothing that is said about the Holocaust of black people in which hundreds of millions lost their lives? I was blessed to recently visit Accra, Ghana, West Africa in late January 1994. During my stay I had the opportunity to visit Castle Elmina and Cape Coast, former slave dungeons. To this day you can still smell the stench of urine and feces in the female quarters.

To witness this site over 400 years later brought tears to my eyes. Knowing that black females were chained by their hands and feet, made to stand in the sun for hours and often raped, endured this punishment for resisting enslavement grieved me deeply. But, not as deeply as knowing that the world does not know of the extent of the injustices inflicted upon black people. Most of the people in Accra, Ghana were not aware of the use of these castles. I asked myself, What caused some to imprison approximately 300 people in 25' x 50' cubes awaiting deportation to this country?

The look inside the horrific dungeons, where men and women received food, medicine, and drinking water through vents, cannot adequately be conveyed on paper. These supplies were rationed through 8" x 6" holes which also served as vents for air. This may be termed, "A Prelude to a Black Holocaust." Nevertheless, the persecution and injustices suffered by black people on their journey and stay here in this country should constantly be provided through a medium that is accessible to the public.

In light of the above, we strongly suggest that you have a double feature movie to generate a broader discussion about intolerance. If you are going to show Steven Spielberg's film about the Holocaust, *Schindler's List*, then we suggest you show Halle Gerima's movie on slavery, *Sankofa*. This would produce a more balanced discussion, quelling complaints that showing one film highlights the plight of only one group of people.

The Honorable Louis Farrakhan teaches that hate is the product of falsehood, envy, jealousy, and deceit and that truth is the generating force of love, freedom, justice, and equality. If providing the people with truths of their past is important, then the mode of communication is equally important in uniting humanity. So important, that we must put aside all of our previous differences and work to make New Jersey a model state for the Nation.

Best wishes for your continued success.

A Helper in the Cause of Truth.

Brother Minister Abdul Khadir Muhammad

Superintendent disappointed with HSPT scores

NEWARK—Executive Superintendent Eugene Campbell was disappointed with the results of the Grade 11 High School Proficiency Test (HSPT-11). The number of passing students in Newark falls far below the state average, and Campbell's expectations.

Overall, 43.5 percent of juniors who took the test passed the reading section, 34.1 percent passed the math and 65.3 percent passed the writing section. The state average is 84.4 for reading, 82.3 for math and 92.1 percent for writing. The state's 30 special needs districts had an average of 59.1, 53.2 and 78.2 percent in reading, math, and writing, respectively.

The district moved forward with HSPT-11 development in its Five-year Strategic Plan. One of the major goals of the plan was

to ensure that 75 percent of Newark students passed the HSPT-11 by the end of 1994. To further that goal, a number of initiatives were undertaken, including:

- The revision of K-12 curriculum to correlate with the new HSPT-11.
- The replacement of textbooks with new editions more closely aligned with the HSPT.
- Providing practice sessions for high school students with practice HSPT tests.
- Purchasing supplemental material which correlates with the HSPT.
- Instituting standardized mid-term and final exams aligned to the HSPT for all secondary schools.
- Providing in-service training to English and math teachers and department chairpersons to highlight skills within the new HSPT.
- Restructuring basic skills to emphasize HSPT.

Grade 11 HSPT Fall 1993 District Results

School	Reading Tested	Passing	Math Tested	Passing	Writing Tested	Passing
Arts	124	75.8	124	75.8	124	80.3
Barringer	350	26.0	340	18.2	338	62.7
Central	105	23.8	99	14.1	98	42.9
East Side	347	52.4	347	45.8	342	74.0
W. Kinney	10	10.0	11	9.1	11	45.5
M. Shabazz	172	28.5	182	12.6	179	44.7
Science	123	95.9	124	96.8	124	96.8
University	56	91.1	56	75.0	56	94.6
Wequahock	209	29.7	204	19.1	205	58.0
West side	190	32.1	180	20.6	183	50.3
Redirection	10	30.0	7	0.0	6	0.0
Newark	1,696	43.5	1,674	34.1	1,666	65.3

The term Tested refers to the number of regular students who took that particular section of English or Math. The term Passing refers to the percentage of those tested who achieved a passing score.

Community Calendar

NOW THROUGH MARCH 20

NEW YORK CITY—The Musical Genius of Duke Ellington. Photographs, posters, sheet music, etc. on display on the first floor, Museum of the City of New York. Call 212-423-0758 for more info.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

IRVINGTON—Irvington Dept. of Health and Welfare presents a Young Fathers Program. Offering counseling, employment, education, medical/health assistance and more. Group meets from 12-4 p.m. in the hospital's ambulatory dept. For further information call 398-6124.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 30

MADISON—Photography Exhibition by Paul Strand. Twenty hand-drawn prints from Strand's "Mexican portfolio" of 1932-33. Located at the Friendship Library, Fairleigh Dickinson University, 285 Madison Ave. 07460. Free and open to the public. Call (201) 593-8532 for more info.

NOW THROUGH MARCH

POMONA—The Richard Stockton College of NJ Art Gallery presents an exhibit of Arts of Central Africa. Gallery is located in room H-113. Hours are Monday-Friday, 12:30-5:30 p.m., Sunday 12-4 p.m.

FEBRUARY 22 THROUGH APRILS

PLAINFIELD—The Literary Voluntary of America-Plains will hold English language workshop for those who would like to learn. Plainfield Public Library, 8th St. and Park Ave. Every Tues. nights from 6-9 p.m. Volunteers needed, who do not need to know a second language to train. For more info call 908-757-1111.

Friday, March 4

WESTFIELD—Assessing, Predicting and Intervening in Violent Behavior in the Active Adult is the topic of a seminar from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 300 North Avenue East, to register call 908-253-8010.

Jersey City—Art à la Carte

A specialist in historic reproduction of landmark buildings will be the featured artist. Participants will gather at the studio of Jersey City Artist Lisa Porroff at 7 p.m. \$8. call Jersey City Museum for more info, 201-547-4273.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5-26

Jersey City—Quilting and portrait weaving at the Jersey City Museum. Sessions held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee \$30, \$25 for museum members. For information call 201-547-4380.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

MONTCLAIR—The Triumph of American Painting. 3 p.m. at the Montclair Museum of Art. Slide show presentation on Abstract Expressionism. Admission is \$5 for museum members and \$8 for non-members. Call 201-746-9118 for more info.

MARCH 10 THROUGH DECEMBER

ELIZABETH—Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders Meetings. Agenda sessions begin at 6:30 p.m., public meetings at 7 p.m., Freeholders meeting room, 8th Fl. Administration Building, Elizabethtown Plaza.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

CRANFORD—Union County College, Cranford campus, will sponsor its second "Back to College Day," to reacquaint alumni and long-time college supporters with the institution. Call 908-709-7209 for more info.

Saturday, March 12

MARTINSVILLE—Kappa Delta Sorority hosts Annual Shamrock Arts and Crafts show. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., St. Martinville United Methodist Church, Washington Valley Rd. Crafters and vendors needed, please call 908-559-4670 for more info.

SCOTCH PLAINS—Spring Craft Fair

sponsored by the Union County Voluntary Teachers' Schools will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Baxel Hall, Raritan Rd Campus. Call for more info, 908-757-0190.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

WATCHUNG—Mixed Media Workshop. Bonnie Berkowitz, Marcel Truppa, and Virginia Wylie discuss their work and reveal their secrets in working with mixed media. 1 p.m. at Watchung Arts Center, on Watchung Circle. \$10 fee, no materials to work on. For more info call 908-753-0190.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

PLAINFIELD—"Sopjourner one Woman Play." Cecily Peterson will reenact the story of Sojourner Truth, in a one woman play showing her rise from slavery to national prominence. Plainfield Public Library, 8th St. and Park Ave. 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

BERKELEY HEIGHTS—Quilt Show at the Berkeley Heights Library, located at 290 Plainfield Ave., on Saturday from 7-9 p.m., \$5 donation. Sunday show is free Over 100 Quilts on display. Contact Jim Fues 908-322-8940.



EAST ORANGE—Darrel P. Hartsfield, of East Orange has been appointed to the East Orange Housing Authority.



TESC president named to education advisory committee

TRENTON—Dr. George A. Prull, president of Thomas Edison State College, was named by Education Secretary Richard W. Riley to serve on the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

The committee is charged with advising Secretary Riley on matters relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility. This is Dr. Prull's third appointment by three different secretaries during the terms of two presidents.

Dr. Prull is listed in Who's Who in America and Who's Who Among Black Americans. He has been honored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Boy Scouts of America and Junior Achievement, and was recognized by Exxon Education Foundation as One of the Most Effective College Presidents in the U.S. He was named "Educator of the Year" for 1993 by Black New Jersey Magazine.

Plainfield teachers perform at Carnegie Hall



PLAINFIELD—Two Plainfield teachers, Richard Weigle, an English teacher at PHS and Rick Parks, a music teacher at Emerson Elementary, will perform at Carnegie Hall with Academy Award-winning actress, Eva Marie Saint.

Saint will be reading poems by Denise Levertov and both men will be performing with the New York Choral Society. Weigle who has been a friend of Saint for many years invited her to appear with the choir and she accepted. Weigle states that he has been a fan of Saint's since he was 12-years-old. He first met her in 1970 when she starred on Broadway as Mary Todd Lincoln in The Lincoln Mask. After that meeting a friendship developed between the two.

Weigle stated, "My life is truly blessed when I was a teenager, my favorite singing group was Peter, Paul and Mary, and my favorite actress was and still is Eva Marie Saint. Last December, I had the pleasure of singing with Peter Paul and Marie in their Christmas concert at Carnegie Hall, and now after all these years, I will finally get to perform on the same stage as Ms. Saint. It is a dream come true. She is one of our greatest actresses, and she is as softly as her name implies to do this for me, for the New York Choral Society and for the arts in general."



EAST ORANGE—Sheila Oliver was recently honored by Mayor Cooper for her outstanding work as President of the Urban Center for Private/Public Partnership.

Coping

by Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

The invisible race riot

Anyone who lives in America is fully aware of the immense racism that exists. Whites dish it out and African Americans are the unhappy victims. Everything about racism is ugly. At least it is to African Americans and other minorities. One of the most unfortunate and harmful characteristics about racism is that whites tend to equate the anger of African American people with their own racism. Several white readers have made this or a similar complaint, "Why don't blacks stop complaining about all of the so-called bad things that white people do? Why don't you write about the bad things that black people do?"

Many whites do not understand that African Americans' anger is the result of racism. They tend to think that our anger is the result of our deficient upbringing or negative subculture. Since it is not their fault, they are not going to do anything to correct it.

Of the hundreds of letters that I have received from all races, about racism, only six letters criticized me. Three of those letters were from African Americans who felt that I was exaggerating the problem of racism; that things were not as bad for African Americans as I said they were; that I was not qualified to speak about racism; that I should not be unfriendly to white people; that I was a black racist; or that the answer to the problem was with God.

I will let you judge whether these criticisms are legitimate. They certainly are typical or characteristic criticisms. I understand that no one likes to be criticized, even if he is guilty of a crime. I attempt to be honest and fair in my comments. Every major governmental study about the social conditions in this society confirms the ugliness of the racism that exists. The few anti-discrimination laws that were passed were enacted only after civil disobedience by blacks was put to use.

When African Americans stopped protesting publicly, most of those hard-earned civil rights were taken away. The biggest shock that I received from your letters was the near-hatred that exists between races. The problem is far worse than even I imagined. Your anger about racism amounts to what I will refer to as an "Invisible Race Riot" in which anger and self-hatred destroys the victim instead of the perpetrator. Whites do not seem to realize that nearly all African Americans experience repeated acts of racism. I wish that I could afford the luxury of writing only about personal problem, but I can't, as long as racism exists.

Life's Little Instructions

If you want something and you feel in your bones that it's the right thing to do, do it. Intuition is often as important as the facts.

Senator Lautenberg gets high rating on Environmental record

WASHINGTON—The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) recently released a report which gave Senator Frank Lautenberg a 100 percent rating for his record on environmental votes.

The Senator stated, "protecting our environment makes good sense for us, both ecologically and economically. Environmental policy and economic policy go hand in hand. In New Jersey, our ski and beach industries bring in close to a billion dollars a year—tourism depends on a clean environment."

"Environmental technology is a growing industry, and I'd like to see New Jersey at the helm of its growth. Thousands of jobs are in the making, varying from converting old machinery into environmentally-safe equipment to designing innovative industry means that we can clean up our environment while we invest in our economy. That makes good sense all around."

The LCV put out a scorecard annually, by polling experts from twenty-seven environmental groups on which legislative actions they believe are the best measures of commitment to environment protection. This year's scorecard examined votes ranging from the ISTU tax, protection of wetlands and endangered species and delaying subsidies for grazing fees in Western states. All legislations were supported by Lautenberg.

The coalition of 100 black women begins new year

SOUTH ORANGE—During the second week of March the New Jersey chapter of the Coalition Of 100 Black Women will host it's first annual women's history month program, to commemorate and celebrate the achievements of black women. The event is entitled "in every generation, action frees our dreams."

On Saturday, April 23, 1994 there will be a Spring Festival Of Oldies Music, to be held at the Bethune Academy, 26 Washington Street, East Orange, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. proceeds will benefit a wide range of community action programs. For additional information call 908-248-6653.

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National News at a glance

by Robert N. Taylor

(Continued from page 1)
last year, the city had the highest homicide rate for any major American city. As a result of action by the state legislature, a riverboat gambling casino is scheduled to open in Gary this summer. —GARY, IN

Top black Connecticut judge suspends The black judge in Connecticut will be suspended for six weeks after being found guilty of "conduct in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned." State Supreme Court Judge Flemming L. Norcott had participated in a murder case argued by a female lawyer with whom he admits having a "close personal relationship." Norcott had been viewed nationally as a potential candidate for either a federal court position or possibly a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court. Those chances are now expected to have evaporated. The suspension of the 50-year-old judge begins March 28, and it will be without pay. —HARTFORD, CT

Carol Mosley-Braun faces federal campaign audit It was reported recently that Senator Carol Mosley-Braun—the only black in the U.S. Senate—is the subject of a wide-ranging campaign audit by the Federal Election Commission. The audit, which began last month, focuses on how certain campaign contributions were spent. But Mosley-Braun's attorney Lou Vitullo has been quoted as saying there were "no suggestions of criminal violations." Already, Mosley-Braun is faced with repaying \$70,000 in expenses which did not comply with federal law. —CHICAGO, IL

Wheat seeks to be second black in U.S. Senate Representative Alan Wheat made official in February his intention to run for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by retiring Republican John C. Danforth. If successful, Wheat would become the second black in the 100-member senate. During his announcement in Kansas City, Wheat emphasized education, health care, welfare reform and battling violent crime. —KANSAS CITY, MO

900-number businesses offered to blacks Explaining how Dionne Warwick "Psychic Friends Network" generates over \$200,000 a day, a black financial self-help group has compiled a guide encouraging more black entrepreneurs to get into the audiotape or 900-line business. The 900-lines are pay-per-call businesses which people call to be entertained, receive counseling or information. The field has become a multi-billion dollar industry in recent years. The club publishes a guide detailing how to start a 900-line business for under \$200. The guide is available for (postage cost of \$4.00) from the non-profit Better Life Club, P.O. Box 28422, Washington, D.C. 20038. —WASHINGTON, DC

Ray Dandridge, Negro League Baseball great, dies Ray Dandridge, one of the great stars of the old Negro Baseball League, died in late February of prostate cancer. He was 79. Dandridge was considered one of the best third basemen ever. But he was little known nationally because he played during an era before 1950, when blacks were not allowed to play in the major leagues. Inducted in the Hall of Fame in 1987, Dandridge said, "Thanks for letting me smell the roses. But my only question is: What took you so long?" —PALM BEACH, FL

Clinton administration O.K.'s minority-based scholarships Reversing a much criticized policy of the Bush administration, President Clinton's administration announced recently that colleges and universities can offer scholarships made available to only minority students. The Bush administration had argued such scholarships discriminated against whites. But in making the announcement Education Secretary Richard Riley said, "We want the doors to post-secondary education to remain open to minority students." —WASHINGTON, DC

Black conservative to challenge Cuomo for N.Y. Governorship Conservative black activist Roy Innis announced in February that he will be challenging New York Governor Mario Cuomo in the democratic party's September primary. The 59-year-old Innis is not given much chance of unseating Cuomo, because his conservative politics have alienated him from many New York blacks. Innis heads the Congress of Racial Equality. —ALBANY, NY

DRUMS IN THE GLOBAL VILLAGE

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X) editor for the black press

by Todd Burroughs

The story of El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (1925-1965) and *Muhammad Speaks*, the tabloid he founded in his basement in 1961, is not a pleasant one. But, it needs to be told, if blacks wish to avoid not only the mistakes of the past, but to learn the proper use of the media.

Malcolm X (a.k.a. Minister Malcolm Shabazz of the Nation of Islam's Temple No. 7 in Harlem) came to journalism in much the same way as another famous Harlemite, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., did two decades earlier. Both wrote columns for the *New York Amsterdam News*, a Harlem weekly, then later decided to start their own tabloids.

Malcolm's *Amsterdam News* column, "God's Angry Men," attacked the Christian Church and extolled the virtues of NOI leader Elijah Muhammad. Peter Goldman, author of *The Death and Life of Malcolm X*, wrote that the column became so popular the NOI's Chicago headquarters took it away from him, replacing him in the *Amsterdam News* slot with Muhammad.

"He (Muhammad) said that Malcolm was becoming the biggest thing in New York Black media," Goldman quotes the late James Hicks, who was the *Amsterdam News*'s editor at the time. Malcolm said in his autobiography that his column was transferred to the *Los Angeles Herald Dispatch*, a black

weekly. The human rights leader added that he learned much of the newspaper craft by working in the *Dispatch*'s offices.

Malcolm then founded *Muhammad Speaks*. The paper was primarily sold on street corners by the NOI's followers—a practice continued today by the new Nation of Islam and their tabloid, *The Final Call*.

"Malcolm himself produced much of the [Muhammad Speaks] copy and took most of the pictures of the early editions, with his own and his temple's activities extensively covered," writes Goldman. "Once again he incurred Chicago's displeasure, and the newspaper was taken away from him, too. Malcolm never complained about that either—not until his relationship with the Messenger had nearly deteriorated to breaking point," Goldman added.

"Little did I dream that later on, when jealousy set in among the hierarchy, nothing about me would be printed in the paper I had founded," Malcolm said in his autobiography.

After his break with Muhammad, the paper (which, as Malcolm said, had previously blacked out coverage of him and his temple) regularly attacked Malcolm. One of those leading the charge was Minister Louis X, a former Malcolm protégé, now known as Louis Farrakhan. Farrakhan wrote that his former mentor had become an "international ho."

Farrakhan also wrote: "Such a man as Malcolm is worthy of death, and we would have met with death if it had not been for Muhammad's con-

science in Allah for victory over his enemies." (Farrakhan has since apologized for his actions, warning blacks of the power of jealousy to foster division and claiming the federal government secretly encouraged the conflict between Malcolm and the Nation.)

In one issue," writes Goldman, "Eugene Majied, the paper's brilliantly cruel cartoonist, drew Muhammad's head bounding down a roadway toward a pile of skulls, growing horns and a satanic leer on route and crying, 'I split because no man wants to be number two man in nothing...bla-bla-bla-bla...'"

Malcolm was assassinated while preparing to speak in the Audubon Ballroom in New York City. He was 39.

Muhammad himself wrote columns during this period, warning of an unidentified "chief hypocrite."

Black press historian Roland Wolsley writes that *Muhammad Speaks* had a claimed circulation of about 600,000 in the early 1970s, the largest circulation of any black newspaper or organ. It had its own printing plant—a technological advance few black newspapers had made before or since. *Muhammad Speaks* was renamed *Bilalian News* after Wallace Muhammad, Elijah Muhammad's son, took over the original Nation following Elijah's death in 1975. (Wallace changed the group into a religious order that embraced orthodox Islam and all races.)

When *Bilalian News* was discon-

(Continued on page 6)

Student recalls visit to slave house

(Continued from page 1)

sheep, further illustrating the contrast between the modern "Paris of Africa" and its far larger rural surroundings.

Urban youngsters — some in western clothing and others in boubous — then try selling trinkets, jewelry and "airport art" in much of the downtown area and on the ferry to Goree Island.

I wondered how African Americans had lost the commercial drive that is so common in Africa. We would do well, I thought, to relearn from our African brothers and sisters the entrepreneurial spirit that abounds in Senegal.

It took a short ferry ride to reach Goree Island from downtown Dakar.

As the boat docked, local Senegalese youngsters gathered to escort us to the slave house and to question us in Wolof, French and in English — about every aspect of our lives.

The slave house on Goree Island is one of the most widely visited of about 50 slave houses, or forts, still standing in West Africa. It has long been a "must" for visiting Black Americans.

Few persons are not affected by the physical reminders of the imprisonment, the break-up of families, the pain and the suffering that began for many in these waterfront prisons.

I saw the small spaces where my ancestors had been packed in large

groups for months at a time. I saw where they had been crammed into cells eight and a half feet wide with light and air-slits too narrow for my fingers to pass through. I saw a room with plenty of light where slaves could be inspected — head, body, arms, legs — like horses or cattle. They had been inspected by slave-buyers who would, if they wanted, hide behind curtains so they would not be observed purchasing human beings. I stood in the "door of no return" that leads from the slave house to a loading dock where ships would take the human cargo — often packed "spoon fashion" to North and to South America.

I cried in the slave house. Like so many others, I wept uncontrollably.

Mercifully, when we left the slave house, the smiling faces of the Goree Island children took all our attention. We answered their questions and held their hands as they showed us their island. They put the pleasure, the welcome and the warmth back into our trip.

The Senegalese know the history of Goree Island and are saddened by it. We were told, however, that there is still another lesson to learn.

They wanted us to know that we are their sisters and brothers and that despite slavery and despite many generations of separation, we can always come home."

Pathmark. Items available at Pathmark Supermarkets with a Pharmacy Dept. and at Free Shipping Drug Stores. Prices effective thru March 12, 1994. *Checkmark means a Yellow Tag Sale	Centrum Liquid 8 oz. btl. \$8.39	Centrum Vitamins Tablets btl. of 60 \$7.49	Efferdent Tablets 2-Layered 60-Layered \$4.59	Efferdent Tablets 60 ct. \$4.59	Freeman Seamist Shampoo or Conditioner, 16 oz. btl. \$2.59	Russ Kalvin Generic Brand Version of Russ Mitchell Fast Dry Sculping Spray 12 oz. cont. \$4.49
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Unisol Box of 3 4 oz. btl. \$5.99	Summer's Eve Cleansing Cloths 16 ct. \$2.19	Summer's Eve Feminine Body Bar 3.5 oz. \$1.89	Arm & Hammer Tooth Powder Dental Care 4 oz. cont. \$2.89	Curel Lotion 6 oz. cont. \$4.39	d-Con Mouse Killing Station 7 oz. cont. \$4.59	d-Con Mouse Prufe II 3 oz. cont. \$3.19
d-Con Mouse Prufe Multi-Pak 6 oz. cont. \$4.99	Crema de Nature Relaxer Succum 1 kit \$5.99	Crema de Nature Relaxer No-Lye 1 kit \$7.99	Crema de Nature Haircolor Assorted Shades 1 kit \$3.59	Crema de Nature Hair Lotion Ultra Moist 10 oz. cont. \$4.79	Ocuvite Tablets btl. of 60 \$7.99	Permessentials Shampoo 12 oz. btl. \$2.99

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Black Press Month

We invite our readers to join us in the celebration of March as Black Press Month. We especially invite you to remember the men and women, among them Samuel Cornish, John Russwurm and Frederick Douglass, who launched newspapers to address the problem of black America and plead our cause. Today, as was the case in their day, we need to plead our own cause and define the world from our perspective.

We wish no man harm. Likewise we recognize the fact that black America has been and is harmed by the road blocks and barriers created by those who fear true progress.

It's time, however, to take charge of our own destiny. Fight to rebuild our neighborhoods, improve our schools, rid our communities of crime and drugs. Most important is to create jobs for ourselves. Our theme for the month is: "Who will create jobs for you if you won't create jobs for yourself."

Letter to the editor

A salute to Prince Hall

Prince Hall was the founder of the oldest social organization among African Americans, The Prince Hall Masons. While most Americans are acquainted with the word "Mason," not many know about Prince Hall.

Prince Hall was born on September 12, 1748, in Bridgetown, Barbados, British West Indies. His father was an Englishman and his mother was a free black woman of French ancestry. It's important to know that Prince Hall was never a slave.

He was not satisfied with the outlook for his father's leather trade in the West Indies, to which he was an apprentice. At age 17, he worked his passage on a sailing vessel headed for Boston and he arrived in March 1765.

He immediately found work in his leather trade and at age 25, Prince Hall had acquired real estate and was qualified to vote. Plus, he now owned and operated his soap manufacturing business. Four years after arriving in Boston, he married Sarah Ritchey, who died at age 24. Fifteen years later, in 1784, he married his second wife, Phoebe Baker.

Hall joined the Methodist Church and became a preacher, and was considered the major leader in the black community. As a community leader he advocated citizenship for black people, equality of the law and participation in government.

He opposed all forms of racial and class discrimination and demanded protection of his people from social injustices. He also founded schools to educate black youth as well as adults.

In March of 1775, Prince Hall and 14 other free black men were initiated into Masonry in Boston by a British Army Lodge, the 38th Foot of the Third Brigade stationed in Boston. When the Brigade moved out of Boston, Hall was left with a dispensation to only hold meetings. There was no black Masonic Order (Grand Lodge) in America.

Nine years later, in 1784, a determined Prince Hall applied to the Grand Lodge of England for a Masonic Charter, and in April, 1787, he was granted a Masonic charter from Scotland authorizing him to establish a black Masonic Grand Lodge in America. Four years later in 1791, the first African Grand Lodge was formed and Hall was elected Grand Master.

Over the years he continued to be an advocate for brotherhood and charity and other African Masonic lodges were formed in Philadelphia, and Rhode Island. The New Jersey Grand Lodge was established in 1848. In 1807, Prince Hall died of pneumonia. Shortly after his death, black masons changed their Masonic Order from African Grand Lodge to Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

As a result, today there are Prince Hall Black Grand Lodges throughout the United States, and in certain international countries.

Although the founders of Prince Hall Masonry were free black men and the organization has remained predominantly black since its beginning, there are no racial restrictions, to membership. Today, many Prince Hall Masonic brothers are not African Americans.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New Jersey is presently headed by the most Worshipful Grand Master, Regional 33°, Warren 33°, who resides in Plainfield. Under his leadership, there are 52 lodges divided into eight state districts. Plus the Order of the Eastern Stars, the ladies auxiliary and the concordant bodies.

Fittingly, I salute Prince Hall during this 1994 Black History Month, for his fight for equality, citizenship, education, participation in government and for being the founder of the oldest African-American fraternal and social organization in America.

Ed Tiller, 33°

Quote of the Week

He who starts behind in the great race of life must forever remain behind or run faster than the man in front.

—Benjamin E. Mays

CITY NEWS



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by Connie Woodruff

...And the beat goes on as the saying goes.

Essex County residents had scarcely recovered from the guilty verdict against County Executive Tom D'Alesio when the news broke of the federal grand jury indictment against Newark at-large councilmen, Gary Harris and Rev. Dr. Ralph T. Grant, Jr. and former East Orange councilman Ralph Harris.

All are Democrats as are the majority of Essex County Freeholders who will decide on interim county executive to serve until the general election in November.

That will not make Essex Dan chairman Tom Giblin's job easier in trying to heal old wounds in the party that resulted in a disarray movement fueled by State Senator Richard Cody and East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper who won reelection in November despite heavy opposition from party leaders like Tom D'Alesio.

D'Alesio was found guilty of extortion and money laundering after a two month trial and those in the courtroom when the verdict was handed down report D'Alesio, a former long time county clerk and county chairman, "looked like he had been struck by lightning."

The Freeholders lost no time swinging into action by accepting D'Alesio's resignation the day after his guilty verdict and naming



by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

Parents, and concerned citizens who attended the February 22, 1994, Plainfield Board of Education meeting were left confused and dissatisfied with the resolution of several personnel matters which will ultimately require the taxpayers to pick up the tab for overall incompetence and poor performance by some members of its administrative and teaching staff. In addition, citizens witnessed how callously some of its public officials waste and spend their earned money and misuse the power and trust invested in them by the people.

The resolution appearing on the Board's agenda in reference to the agreement to "retire" the Superintendent of Schools Dr. Annette Kearney, yet have her act as a consultant for 18 months for over \$100,000 is tantamount to a buy out. Supposedly this agreement will allow her to get a disability pension, because she is unable to return to work on a regular duty schedule. A number of citizens questioned the Board about the ambiguous nature of some of the terms of this agreement. Of particular concern was how she was going to be able to act as a consultant if she was supposedly unable to return to work. There were no satisfactory answers given to this question as well as several others. When Board President Debbie Meyers stated that "We have no idea if Dr. Kearney is disabled," it suggested that this deal was cut for expediency and not in the best interest of the citizens of Plainfield.

Several Board members voiced their concern over the agreement, and requested that the resolution be tabled so that the Board could have more time to review it. The final vote was 5 to 4 in favor of the agreement. Board members who voted against this resolution were Mr. Jerome Kirkland, Vice President, Mr. Cory Storck, Ms. Veronica Taylor and Mrs. Beulah Womack. Board members who voted for this resolution were Ms. Debbie Meyers, Ms. Peggy Wilcox, Mr. Harold Brown, Mr. Veronica Denio, and Mr. Orlando Gonzalez.

Another controversial vote came with the resolution to create a

As I See It...

Donald Biase acting executive.

That made sense since Biase had been doing most of the office's work with D'Alesio's resignation and his daily trip to his trial in downtown Newark's federal court building.

Meantime, the freeholder board has 30 days to name an interim executive and therein lies the tale of who will be doing what in the exec job.

It is known some of the most active politicians prefer someone who does not want to run for the office in November and that alone would rule out a lot of people.

Those reportedly interested in this political pull include: East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper, an announced candidate to run in June primary election for the party's designation, Freeholder President Sara Bost, who may be persuaded to forego a shot to be elected Mayor of Irvington in favor of the county exec job. Freeholder James Cavanaugh of Livingston and the present Freeholder vice president, Joe DiVincenzo, a political mentor of north Ward Center Director, Steve Adubato and Freeholder majority leader, Joseph Parlatavichio, who probably would have to resign his position as principal of Dayton Street School should he be the choice.

Assemblyman Willie Brown was allegedly opposed to naming the fact that the political demise of Tom D'Alesio may also end his job as chief of staff to the Essex County Executive.

Whoever succeeds D'Alesio will undoubtedly bring in his own man (or

woman) and Mr. Brown will go by-bye. But that's part of the territory of serving at the will of the appointing authority.

One of New Jersey's most successful "king makers," Steve Adubato is a King for real this year. A few weeks ago before an adoring crowd of workers and followers, the politically connected Newarker was crowned "King of the Mardi Gras. This guy has an uncanny way of making all his dreams come true. Wonder how far and how fast he can push it, protégé, Freeholder Joe DiVincenzo for the county exec spot?

It's really true. Bill Payne, Congressman Donald's brother, is circulating his nomination petitions for Mayor Newark in the March 3rd election. He was spotted "working the room" at the Robert Treat Hotel's Thursday night Jazz session, aided by a leading local attorney who hangs out with the energetic young professionals in Newark.

The result of a survey comparing Payne and Mayor Sharpe James was positive enough to generate a lot of enthusiasm for former businessman.

One of Bill's admirers (and they are plentiful), said the fact that Mayor James has a reputed million dollar campaign coffers is not discouraging. "We intend to go door to door and press flesh Sharpe has never heard about and that's how we'll beat him," said the political innocent. Well...maybe, just maybe.

Friends of Larrie West Stalks are

expressing some concern that she may be on the endangered specie list as the Democratic Party designs for another term as Essex County Registrar.

Seems like several of the younger Democrats think it's their time to step up to bat. That coupled with the trend to dump incumbents may have an impact on party decision-makers.

The Irvington Board of Education has voted to grant its business administrator, Mike Steele an unpaid leave of absence from his \$70,000-a-year job.

As Mayor of Irvington and a full time director for the Board of Education, Steele has been in the eye of the storm for a long time and has been dogged by charges that holding both positions is a conflict of interest. The situation is viewed as so serious the state Education Department may not certify the district and may consider it a prime target for state takeover.

The furor against Steele is building at a time when more and more citizens are rallying against dual office holding and the Education Department's School Ethics Commission in Trenton has charged Steele with violating three conflict of interest laws. Steele has countered that is not the case and that there are exceptions to dual office holding.

Steele's headaches are sure to increase if an when Sara Bost, popular long-term councilwoman makes it official she will run against him for Mayor in the May election.

Where is our tax money going?

new position titled Assistant Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. Though this resolution was defeated at last month's Plainfield Board of Education meeting, it was placed back on the agenda by Board President Debbie Meyers. Strong objections to creating yet another administrative position were raised by parents and other concerned citizens. Many parents talked about the need for money to be used to hire more teacher aides, by additional computers, and to help alleviate overcrowded conditions in some schools. Concern was also voiced by Board members Kirkland, Storck, Taylor and Womack over creating a new position this late in the school year, and not being able to identify how this position would be able to be paid for during the following year. Board member Ms. Veronica Taylor specifically asked the Board President Ms. Debbie Meyers, "Why is this back on the agenda?" She also went on to request that it be removed, since the Board had already voted it down last month.

The request was ignored because apparently Ms. Meyers now had her fifth vote needed to pass the resolution due to the presence of Mr. Gonzalez, who was absent at the previous meeting. The final vote on this resolution was 6-4 with once again, Kirkland, Storck, Taylor and Womack voting against the creation of this new administrative position, and Meyers, Brown, Denio, Gonzalez, and Wilds voting for it.

A resolution concerning an agreement between Mr. John Hartmann, the teacher involved in the distribution of the racist and offensive literature at school was also voted on. The Board agreed to accept the resignation of Mr. Hartmann effective June 30, 1996. In the meantime, Mr. Hartmann will be assigned as a Computer Media Technician in the district. The sad reality of the failure to properly document incidents that occur in our schools involving professional staff members, along with the loop holes available to protect individuals under the tenure laws, makes the whole affair a vivid reminder of why our educational system is in a state of crisis. Students and concerned citizens everywhere need to begin to take action to look into these issues, in order to lobby for a change in the laws, so that no Board of Education would have to settle for this type of unacceptable solution again.



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NOW THRU MARCH 13

WESTFIELD—Girl Scouts throughout Union County and parts of Somerset and Middlesex counties will be developing and practicing their marketing skills during their annual Cookie Sale. For further information about the Washington Rock Scout Cookie Sale, call 908-232-3236.

MARCH 12, 19.26

TRENTON—The New Jersey State Museum, located at 205 W. State Street will offer Saturday workshops for kids. Meet live snakes, explore dinosaurs, create bees wax candles and much more! To register or receive a brochure call 609-292-7660.

NOW THROUGH MAY

NEW YORK—Children's Museum of the Arts in SoHo offers wide range of ongoing exhibitions and weekend workshops. Workshops include wood sculptures, Costume collage, Print making, and more. The museum is located on 72 Spring St., between Broadway and Lafayette St. Call 212-274-0986 for info.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

LINCROFT—The African-American Festival will be held at Brookdale Community College. For more info, call 908-224-2303.

SEND KID KALENDAR EVENTS TO: City News

P.O. BOX 1774
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Los Angeles to host National Black Teen Scholarship Pageant

LOS ANGELES, CA—With community involvement and participation from local, state and city government, Los Angeles was granted the opportunity to host the 9th annual Miss Junior Black America Scholarship Pageant.

Previous cities hosting the event was Atlanta, Dallas, Miami, Baltimore and Oakland. The pageant has evolved into a week-long list of festivities at the Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles, July 27, through July 31, 1994.

The competition is based on talent, intelligence and scholastic achievement. Monies will be paid directly to the college selected by the winners.

All interested teens are encouraged to compete for college scholarships. For further information, please call 1-800-203-2034. The national headquarters is also accepting financial contributions towards scholarships and is seeking local pageant directors to host local pageants.

Dance auditions being held for elementary school students

NEWARK—The Newark Board of Education's After-School Youth Development Program will hold dance auditions for elementary students in grades 5 through 8, on March 4.

Students will participate in a dance troupe that will expose them to dance and cultural art. Dance is a viable discipline and outlet to vent energy while building self-pride and self-esteem.

Teens entertain at hospitals and nursing homes

WATCHUNG—"Make Someone Happy," a community outreach program of the Watchung Arts Center, will entertain at area hospitals and nursing homes in February and March. Fourteen talented teens from nine communities will present a musical based on Dr. Suess' "Immortal Green Eggs and Ham."

The tour will culminate in a gala performance on March 20 for the major donors supporting the program. The young thespians will present the musical for the sponsors at the Watchung Arts Center's "Lunch on the Watchung Circle," starting at 7 PM. Major funding came through the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

The talented students, ranging in age from 13 to 18, competed in open auditions to participate in this program. Selected were Christine Bartolomeo, Lindsey Brooks, Holly Buzek, Esther Canata, Marshall Heyman, Laura Higgins, Zachary

EASTORANGE—Thirteen/WNET, in cooperation with the City of East Orange and the East Orange School District, last month hosted the second annual "Reach for the Stars," motivational program for students and teachers on Tuesday, February 8. The event was held at East Orange High School.

"Reach for the Stars," a celebration of African-American achievement, is designed to provide New Jersey junior and high school students with positive African-American role models. This year's program focused on the importance of education and staying in school.

An attentive audience included ninth graders from East Orange High School and eighth graders from the Hart Complex and the Vernon L. Davey Junior High Schools.

This event has touched the lives of over 10,000 school aged children for the past five years. George L. Miles, Jr., Chief Operating Officer commented, "Our commitment is not only limited to quality

programming. We are concerned about quality of life issues, such as living in a drug-free, violence-free society. It is our hope that this motivational program will encourage young people to stay in school, so they will be prepared to "Reach for the Stars."

Stephen Cowan, principal of East Orange High School voiced his support for the program noting that children should interact with appropriate role models to understand the characteristics of success.

Cowan stated, "We are grateful to Thirteen/WNET, the City of East Orange under the leadership of Mayor Cardell Cooper, Dr. John Howard and the East Orange Board of Education for giving us this opportunity and for understanding the need of our students in the area of self esteem as we celebrate African-American Heritage Month."

Prominent role-models participating in the program included, East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper, Irvington Mayor Michael G. Steele, George L.

Miles, Jr., Chief Operating Officer of Thirteen/WNET, Sheila Oliver, Executive Director of the Urban Center for Public/Private Partnership, Reverend Terrance Porter, Assistant to the Pastor of Fountain Baptist Church, Leon Goodman, Man-

ager of Recruitment, Thirteen/WNET; Patricia Sturdivant Little, Kelvin O. Evans, East Orange Board of Education Member, Willie Asbury, a nationally known comedian, L.J.F.E., an inspirational rap duet, and the Samuel Tilden High School

Mixed Chorus, Brooklyn, New York.

"Role model programs such as "Reach for the Stars" are just one of the many efforts we must embrace, if we are to help young people. Everyone needs someone to believe in them," said Mayor Cooper.



Back Row (L-R) Mayor Steel, Kelvin O. Evans, East Orange Councilwoman Yvonne Blake, Assemblyman LeRoy J. Jones, Tony Dorsey L.J.F.E. member. Front row (L-R) Mayor Cooper, student Anne Marie Johnson, Student Robbie Davis, William Dorsey, L.J.F.E. member and Sheila Oliver President of Urban Center for Public/Private Partnership.

Peace on the Streets

NEW YORK—As conceived by Anthony Robinson of Husky Entertainment, CHILL is the first in a series of projects aimed at promoting "Peace On The Streets."

The first annual CHILL "Peace On The Streets" Tour, is an unprecedented initiative to combat violence by enlisting recording artists and community leaders to reach out to students in the inner city.

CHILL is currently sponsoring a series of forums in seven cities nationwide which will unite middle/high school students, community leaders, and recording artists. The campaign will involve over 2,000 students nationwide, 1,400 community organizations, and a host of national politicians.

The organization will ask the Board of Education in each city to allow students to attend the event in lieu of school. The first CHILL forum was held in Oakland CA, on February 18.

By providing an environment for students to air their fears, concerns, and possible solutions, these day-long forums will promote knowledge and understanding in order to halt the onslaught of drugs and guns in our cities.

The cities participating in the upcoming forums are:
Houston, TX: March 2
Atlanta, GA: March 5
Washington, DC: March 11
Chicago, IL: March 15
New York, NY: March 18

Additional "Peace On The Streets" programs include:
• A CHILL Scholarship Founda-

tion, funded by donations, that will grant research and education scholarships to underprivileged students.
• Mentor programs where students can meet with professionals in a variety of fields who serve as role models for kids interested in similar careers.

• A Black College Expo that will tour urban cities.

• A Black College Tour for high school students.

In order to raise funds for all CHILL activities, the organization has scheduled a benefit pay-per-view concert with (performers TBD), a soundtrack album, and a home video.

For Further Information Contact Rachel McFarlane at CHILL 914-664-8363 or Miguel Baquer at Columbia Records 212-833-8562

Watchung Arts Center hosts third annual children's art exhibit

WATCHUNG—Spring is coming, believe it or not, and it is time for another art exhibit for and by children, hosted by the Watchung Arts Center. It is open to all New Jersey children grades 1 to 10. All media, including sculpture, will be accepted, however no entries in crayons or markers, will be accepted. All must be original work no copies, prints or photographs are eligible.

Each submission must relate to the theme "Hello, Spring!"

Children may submit up to three

pieces for the single entry fee of \$7.30 (\$5 for Watchung Arts Center members). Checks should be made payable to the WAC Visual Arts Foundation. Two dimensional work should be matted or framed for display. Maximum dimension, including frame, is 16 x 20 inches. Sculpture should not exceed an 18 inch cube in size.

Work must be submitted at the Arts Center for judging either Thursday or Friday, April 7 and 8, from 12:30 through 4:30, or Saturday,

April 9 from 10 AM through 1 p.m. Examples of submissions from each entrant will be displayed in the Watchung Arts Center's Studio from April 11 through 28.

Best of Show ribbons for this Third Annual Children's Art Exhibit will be awarded in categories covering five grade levels. A reception, including entertainment and award presentation, will be held for the children on Sunday, April 17, from 2 - 4 p.m. For further information, call 908-753-0190.

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during which time we've treated more than 2,000,000 of them.

(In fact, we cared for some 96,000 kids in 1992 alone.)

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Health Calendar



CITY LIFE

Billboard

THROUGH MARCH 11

NEWARK—"Sign Language" A multimedia exhibit of work by contemporary regional artists using signs & symbols. City Without Walls Gallery. For hours and info call 201-652-1121.

MARCH 2-5

NEWARK—Essex County College, presents "Heroic Women of Color," a multi-media exhibit of work by contemporary regional artists using signs & symbols. City Without Walls Gallery. For hours and info call 201-652-1121.

JERSEY CITY—"Fiddler On The Roof," by the Jersey City State College Dept. of Music, Dance, and Theatre 8 p.m. on Fri. and Sat., 3 p.m. on Sun. General admission \$8, senior and group admission is \$5. Held at Jersey City Campus Theatre, call 201-200-3151.

MARCH 3-15

BROOKLYN NY—"Sacred of Mirabito," the first appearance of South Africa's Market Theatre. This music-theatre piece focuses on traditional and contemporary cultural values. BAM Carver Playhouse, 30 Lafayette Ave. March 3-5, 8-12 at 8 p.m., Mar. 6 & 13 at 3 p.m. Call 718-636-1129 for more info.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

MADISON—"The Cinderella Myth," Following a 2 p.m. workshop performance of Russell Davis' "Satire's Port," Playwright Theatre of NJ, 35 Green Valley Rd., Contact: Josh Sommers, 201-514-1787.

WESTFIELD—"The Westfield Symphony Offers a Baroque Concert," Featuring works by Johann Sebastian Bach and much more, at the Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave. For further information call 908-232-9400.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

WAYNE—"American Odyssey," Ann Hobson Pilot, of the Boston Symphony is guest at the Shala Green Concert at 8 p.m. For information call, William Patterson College, at 201-595-2966.

NEWARK—"Sweet Honey In The Rock," 9 p.m. at Newark Symphony Hall. Tickets on sale for \$20. Call 201-242-0500 for ticket information.

Performers sought for arts education showcase

MONTHLY ARTS—The Arts Council of the Essex Area, in cooperation with South Orange-M Maplewood school district, will sponsor the 17th annual Arts in Education Showcase on October 1, 1994.

Application deadline for the showcase is March 15. Participants will have the opportunity to share their talents to educators, recreation/cultural directors and representatives from a variety of organizations involved with cultural programs for youth in the metropolitan area. The Arts in Education showcase is the largest and most comprehensive in New Jersey; a recent Showcase generated over \$265,000 in bookings for participating performers.

Selection will be based on artistic quality and educational merit. Showcase performances should run no longer than twenty minutes; a 15-minute show should appeal to a school-aged audience. A display area will be available for performers to distribute literature, meet the audience and arrange bookings, (and is also open to groups or artists who do not perform). For additional information call 201-744-1717 or write the Arts Council of the Essex Area, 40 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042.

Artexpo features largest selection of African-American art

NEW YORK—Artexpo New York 1994 will salute the explosive growth and popularity of African-American art by showcasing the largest selection of African-American art ever assembled at any international art fair. A special pavilion devoted exclusively to African-American art includes more than a dozen different exhibitors, featuring the works of over 100 artists.

African-American art created in virtually every medium including original paintings, sculptures, prints, posters and more will be available at Artexpo, March 5-7 at the Jacob Javits Center, at prices designed to suit every budget—ranging from under \$50 to the high five figures.

The wide variety of art include works by such highly regarded artists as Romare Bearden, Paul T. Goodnight, Verna Hart, Charles Bibbs and many more. Newly discovered artists will also be represented at Artexpo's African-American pavilion.

To complement the international array of artworks, Artexpo features an exciting line-up of live musical performances, artist demonstrations and lectures during the consumer weekend (Saturday, March 5

by Rudy Langlais

A family, community ripped apart by drugs, violence and self-indulgence

In the history of warfare, no conflict has lasted as long as the battles that have raged for over 100 years in African-American communities over culture, history, turf, money and ego. Fought on the battlefields of television, editorial and news pages, political rostrums, rallies and crusades. The lesson learned by these struggles range from the noble contributions of Duke Ellington, Fannie Lou Hamer and Albert Murray, the decadent explosion of current African-American criminality.

Few places embody this conflict more precisely than Harlem's Sugar Hill—a neighborhood founded on immigrant dreams, later filtered and fractured through a prism of time, history, prejudice and decay. Located on a bluff overlooking the "Flats" of central Harlem, Sugar Hill was once Camelot—a magic kingdom constructed on myths, accomplishments and hopes. A commune where con-men resided with kings and queens and all dreamed the same dream while dancing the Swoop step, the sun heralding that there was always a new beginning every day.

In time, things changed. Sugar Hill changed. And soon, there was only the faint echo of that time when there were hope, replaced by ruin, failed social programs and their new ethos. But they say, "The more things change, the more they remain the same."

In a new film called *Sugar Hill*, that attitude is shattered by the drive of one man, to cleanse the furies of an exploited life in, open defiance of all the forces around him. In the first of many surprises, it is a Hollywood film with big-time star voices—Wesley Snipes, Clarence Williams III, Leslie Uggams, Ernie Hudson, Michael Wright and Abe Vigoda. It is set in the world of crime and at times reaches operatic levels of brutal intensity.

The film depicts the inner and outer struggle of a young, immensely successful, brilliant "Christ of the underworld," played by Snipes. Driven into shame and guilt by what he's doing, he decides to get out. Snipes' Roemello Skuggs, however, takes on the Herculean task of not only saving himself, but what is left of his broken family.

As played by Clarence Williams, III, Arthur Roemello Skuggs is at once a proud and ruined man—a symbol of the great black migration from the South to New York. He began at the opening of the century and tapered off in the 1950s. Arriving in the Harlem and Sugar Hill of the '50s, A.R., full of dreams, with a talent for playing piano, a gift for knowing "everybody uptown," and a youthful charm, soon becomes involved in selling heroin. A chic drug at the time, favored by the bored East Side rich, Greenwich village artists, political radicals and jazz musicians,

heroin was just beginning its long, maniacal reign.

Sugar Hill portrays the wreckage of A.R. and his family because of their involvement in this trade. It also addresses questions that brood over this film: Do we need another film that shows this side of African-American life?

A mind may be a terrible thing to waste, but by now the pathologies of African-American life are well documented—the high murder rate, suicide, violent crime, imprisonment, teenage pregnancy, rape, drug addiction and dealing.

Young black men and women have become trapped—some by their own doing—in cycles of laziness, despair, crime, violence, brutality and decadence. The media-driven dreams of American success in the lifestyle of the rich and famous, cloy the psyche. How do you get out? How do you begin to get out? How can you change?

The process of African American—to American redemption, revitalization and change begins with personal responsibility for change, making choices to change. "I must believe," said South African playwright Athol Fugard, "in the ability of a man to redeem himself from the villainy of his past." These words, which inspired the making of *Sugar Hill*, are at once hope, prophecy and mandate.

Medical supply companies, in the past 10 years, have seen a significant increase in the sales of wheel chairs. Their users are young black men injured by gunfire in street businesses, the wheel chair becoming the symbol across America, of their defeat in the pursuit of a ruthless dream. All over the country you can see them, wheeling through the streets like Vietnam

veterans—near survivors of the war at home.

How do you get out? How can you redeem yourself? By starting, says *Sugar Hill*. By the will to change, followed by the sheer force of that will to act, to break all ties, to cut all restraints—emotional, friends, peers, family, business associates, physical restraint.

Sugar Hill screenwriter Barry Michael Cooper, says he began writing the very personal story with an observation. The young men of his time were a "lost generation"—trapped men with deep longings. He set out to capture that condition, and point a way out. Perhaps he will succeed.

Rudy Langlais is co-producer of *Sugar Hill*.

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Pictured from left to right are Tom Crockett, McDonald's Marketing Manager; Sean Cort, Public Affairs Production Coordinator of WRKS radio; Peter Samaha, representative of McDonald's Tri-State Restaurant Owners Association; Leslie Burns, GospelFest Producer; Ron Bailey, McDonald's restaurant owner and President of McDonald's Tri-State Black Restaurant Owners Association; and Ian Wilson, Sales Manager of WRWL radio.

McDonald's launches 10th annual GospelFest

NEW YORK—1994 has been declared the Year of Gospel, and voices will ring out all over the New York tri-state area, as McDonald's launches the tenth annual GospelFest. Participating gospel groups will win valuable prizes, the opportunity to win scholarship money, tutorial sessions with some of today's leading Gospel artists, and a chance to perform live as part of a retrospective gala event in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center.

To qualify for entry, groups must reside in the metropolitan New York, New Jersey or Fairfield County, Connecticut area, have a minimum of seven members and can not have a professional recording contract with any label. Groups will compete in three categories: (1) Choir, Groups having 15 or more members; (2) Ensemble groups with less than 15 members; and (3) Youth, groups whose members are 16 years of age and younger.

The preliminary round of com-

petition will begin on Saturday, April 9 in New York and will continue at area churches on Saturdays throughout the month of April. Groups advancing from the preliminaries will move on to a semi-final competition, to be held on Saturday, May 21 in New York. From the semi-finals, groups will compete as part of an exciting tenth anniversary retrospective concert in which former GospelFest winners will return to the stage for a gala event held in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center.

Applications are currently available at area McDonald's restaurants. In addition, entries, including the name of the group, number of members, category, name of a group contact, address and contact phone number (both day and evening) can be mailed to: GospelFest '94, 95 West 95th Street, Suite 31C, New York, NY 10025. Entries must be postmarked by March 14, 1994. For further information, tune in to WRWL-AM or WRKS-FM radio.

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MEMBER FDIC

Business Calendar

EVERY 1ST FRIDAY

NEWARK—Business network, buffet, and dance party. Every 1st Friday of the month at Sheraton Inn Newark Airport (Rte. 1 & 9 North), 5:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. \$10 fee, \$7 before 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

PENNSAUKEN—Fourth Annual South Jersey Venture Idea Fair. Sponsored by the South Jersey Entrepreneur Network. Call 609-664-8877 for time and location.

MARCH 5-MAY 14

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College will offer a six session "Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) Review." This course is designed to help law school candidates prepare for the LSAT. Classes meet on Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Tuition is \$135.00. To register call 201-200-3869.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

SOUTH ORANGE—Career Night - Workforce 2000. Sutton Hall University's annual career Night program is to inform students of the new challenges and opportunities they can expect to encounter in the workplace. Call 901-761-3555 for more information.

NOW THRU MARCH 22

MONTCLAIR—New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (NJAWBO) presents its winter seminar, "Are You An Entrepreneur? and Start Right Build Right!" from 6-9 p.m. For further information call 908-707-0173.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

NEW YORK—Doing Business With Minority Suppliers. Presented by Regional Williams, President and CEO Procurement Resources, Inc. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., registration \$20.00. To be held at Hyatt Corp., 1025 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Fl (42nd St. & 6th Ave.) New York, NY. Registration deadline: March 18th, 1994. For more info call 404-631-3633.

Send business events to

City News

144 N. Ave. Plainfield, NJ 07060

CITY BUSINESS

NJ HOW highlights Atlantic City builder conference

PLAINSBO—The Home Owners Warranty (HOW) Corporation of New Jersey will participate in, and be a sponsor of, several educational seminars at the 1994 Atlantic City Builders Conference, scheduled for March 15 through 18, at the Taj Mahal Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City.

Representatives from New Jersey HOW and the HOW Corporation, Arlington, Va. will be on hand to discuss sales and marketing, quality control, technical and customer service-oriented issues. Builders and remodeling contractors can meet with HOW Program representatives at booth #202 and 301, in the Elites Arena, on March 16, 17 and 18.

Educational seminars being sponsored by New Jersey HOW on March 17th and 18th will deal with subjects ranging from construction techniques, sales and marketing, and customer service, to total quality construction, framing techniques, and business management.

On Thursday, March 17th, New Jersey HOW will sponsor a seminar on "Total Quality Construction." Attendees will learn how to focus on quality and excellence, as well as the steps needed to implement total quality measures in their home-building and remodeling firms. This session, which begins at 11:30 a.m., will feature Gary Lewis, Quality Specialist with the National Association of Home Builders' Research Foundation, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Later that same day, builders and real estate sales representatives will hear how the pros achieve more sales and referrals at a New Jersey HOW-sponsored program entitled, "Super Sales and Marketing Techniques That Spell Success." The panel of experts at the afternoon session will include: John Wachter

of Weichert Realtors New Home Sales Division; Mary Boorman, of Gale, Wentworth and Dillon, Florham Park, Linda Kelly, from the Orleans Organization, Huntington Valley, Pa., and Jane Fletcher, Senior Editor of *Builder* Magazine, Washington, DC.

New Jersey HOW will wind-up its conference activities with a full slate of seminars and programs on Friday, March 18th. A technical seminar, entitled, "Don't Get 'Framed'—Build it Right From The Ground Up," will cover all aspects of framing, with particular emphasis on floor, ceiling, and roof systems. The session, scheduled for 10:00 a.m. is geared to home builders and remodelers and their field superintendents, as well as framing contractors and others.

Immediately following the construction seminar at noon will be New Jersey HOW's Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon. The installation of newly-elected Corporate Officers and Directors will take place during the luncheon program. Tickets for the luncheon are available from New Jersey HOW, or at the

Conference Registration Desk, in Atlantic City.

At 1:30 p.m., New Jersey HOW will host a special business management program, "Production For Growing Remodelers." A blueprint will be presented to contractors on how to effectively plan for changes,

schedule jobs more efficiently, manage several crews at a time, control quality, and manage subcontractors. Ed McGowan, of McGowan Corporation, Binghamton, New York, and National Remodeler of the Year (1993), will be the featured speaker.

Rounding-out the day's activities will be a Hospitality Room for Remodelers, at 4 p.m. (by invitation only), sponsored by New Jersey HOW and the New Jersey Builders Association's Remodelers Committee. For additional call 609-275-1644 or 1421.

MBD hosts sixth annual business conference

PARSIPPANY—On Thursday, March 3rd, 1994, the Minority Business Development Group of NAPM-NJ will hold its Sixth Annual Conference and Dinner. The theme is "Minority Business and Corporate America - Perfect Together."

The NAPM-NJ, formerly the Purchasing Management Association of New Jersey, has a very active Minority Business Development Group whose goal is to educate its members (750) in the

area of procurement from minority and women-owned small businesses. It's important to instill an awareness among purchasing professionals regarding establishing solid business relationships with these suppliers and the value associated with these new business ventures. This conference is expected to be invaluable in terms of meeting these needs.

Community Home Mortgages

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Minority contractor to receive Radon measurement training

WASHINGTON, DC—For the fourth year, the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) and Rutgers University will collaborate to offer an educational workshop to minority contractors entitled, "Radon Measurement Operators Training course." NAMC, will conduct the training at the Eastern Regional Radon Training Center on Rutgers' Livingston Campus in New Brunswick.

The five day measurement training course will consist of four days of instruction and the administering of a proficiency examination on the fifth day. All contractors who pass

the exam will be listed with the EPA as proficient radon measurement contractors.

According to Sam Caradine, executive director of NAMC, "we want to get minority contractors directly involved in the radon measurement field. This training will serve two enterprise for minority contractors: to give minority contractors the tools to rid our nation of a deadly problem."

Minority contractors can be trained for a \$100.00 refundable fee. The course will be offered from March 14-18. For further information please contact Ellie Anderson at 202-347-8259.

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Community Home Mortgages or our other specialty services like Home Improvement Loans, Secured Credit Cards and Discount Checking and Savings Accounts. At First Fidelity, it's all part of our ongoing commitment to the people and communities where we work and live.

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Private Mortgage Insurance is required with a down payment of less than 10%. Loans available on 1-4 family, owner-occupied residences. As of February 18, 1994, the interest rate for low-income borrowers was 5.625% with a corresponding Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 6.680%. The APR assumes 360 monthly payments of \$6.15 per \$1,000 borrowed, no points and a down payment of less than 10%. As of February 18, 1994, the interest rate for moderate-income borrowers was 6.125% with a corresponding APR of 6.942%. The APR assumes 360 monthly payments of \$6.47 per \$1,000 borrowed, no points and a down payment of less than 10%. Consult us for income limitations for low- and moderate-income borrowers. Loans underwritten by First Fidelity Bank, N.A. Rates subject to change.



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National Association of Minority Contractors and Rutgers University presents

RADON MEASUREMENT OPERATORS TRAINING COURSE

MARCH 14-18, 1994
Eastern Regional Radon Training Center
Livingston Campus
New Brunswick, New Jersey

This Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sponsored workshop is designed for individuals new to radon measurement and will be divided into two (2) days of classroom theory and two (2) days of hands-on experience. The U.S. EPA's Radon Measurement Proficiency Examination will be held on the morning of March 18, 1994. All who pass the exam will be listed on special EPA list of "proficient radon measurement operators" which will be distributed to all states.

INTENSIVE 5-DAY PROGRAM FEATURES • Radon Basics and Health Effects • Interpretation of Results and Quality Assurance • Ethics and Professionalism • Radon Measurement Devices, Procedures, & Protocols • Worker Health and Safety • How to Market Your Radon Measurement Business • Radon Measurement Proficiency Exam on fifth and final day.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND? Contractors who are interested in expanding their current capability to include radon should take this course. Contractors will find that having an expertise in radon measurement will serve them well during the traditional "down time" in the winter when the market for radon measurement operators is highest.

REGISTER: Complete and return the form to NAMC with \$100.00 refundable payment. Checks should be made payable to the National Association of Minority Contractors. Registration fee will be refunded with successful workshop completion. If a last minute emergency prevents you from attending, NAMC will allow you to substitute your enrollment to anyone you designate. However we will not allow you to attend another course, in lieu of your cancellation, and receive a refund. Send to: Ellie Anderson, NAMC, 1833 F ST NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20004, 202-347-8259. Fax: 202-628-1876.

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Sportlight

by R.L. Greene

You've just got to love Charles Barkley. The man is a monster on the basketball court, at a smallish 6'6" operating down in the paint in the valley of the giants where the 7-footers earn their living. And his commercials are as straightforward as he is.

None of this super-dick salesman-ship for Mr. Barkley, Oh, no. He really tells it like it is. And what he has to say, despite the truth of it, makes him a target for those who believe our world would be all right if only those with athletic skills would be Black-skinned Mr. Cleans.

When Barkley proclaimed he wasn't a role model, there was such a clamor to get on the complaint bandwagon that some critics almost got crushed in the stampede. Listen closely and you heard Barkley say that parents should be role models for their children.

What's wrong with that? In his latest Nike commercial, the bad bald dude from Phoenix again goes straight to the point, which means directly opposite to most commercials.

Where Air Jordans will make you soar like a bird—or at least the ad give you that impression—Barkley points out that playing in his shoes will not make you a better rebounder than you really are. Or a better player.

They even won't make you as pretty as he is, he says with a great smile.

What his shoes will do, he says, is allow you to be the best you can be. Not as good as Barkley, perhaps, but as

good as you can be.

To this writer, that sounds like the truth. And in this day of the massive oversell, we don't hear the truth that much anymore. Maybe that's the reason Barkley is facing so much criticism. Truth is, after all, a difficult thing to manipulate.

Unfortunately, Barkley may be telling the truth when he's not in his commercials. He's talking about this being the last year he'll delight all of us with his board-pounding, jump-shooting, trash-talking game that could very possibly power the Suns to the NBA title this season.

Even though he has a childlike smile that is infectious, Barkley has never come across in his advertisements the same way Michael Jordan and Magic Johnson did in theirs. There is, underneath it all, a persona that can be tough or even threatening.

Charles, just like in the commercials, doesn't hide behind a facade. Hit him and he has back. Right away. Up front. Nothing sneaky.

And unlike Jordan, who had to hide in his hotel room all the time to escape the smothering adulation of fans, Barkley enjoys night life, refusing to allow others to force him into something he doesn't want to do. Just like on a basketball court.

Of course, with his openness has come a lot of grief, some of it seemingly self-inflicted.

There was the time he was fined by the NBA for spitting at a fan during a game. It made no difference that the fan probably deserved his fate; in that case, Barkley should

have restrained himself.

Then came Milwaukee where a man, his braggadocio bolstered and his brain battered by alcoholic refreshment, tried to show Barkley how bad he was. He was bad, all right, and Barkley last year was acquitted of a misdemeanor battery charge for breaking the man's nose with a punch.

Yes, just like in a game when he goes to the hoop, Barkley refuses to back down. And just like he gets some shots rejected by the Patrick Ewing and Shaquille O'Neals of the league, he has taken more than his share of shots this year during his nights out at a Phoenix bar called Sixix.

In the first incident, a drunk woman bothered Barkley repeatedly until he finally cursed her. A 36-year-old vitamin salesman resented Barkley's choice of words and told him so. He accused Barkley of then hitting him, but an investigation ended when police found the allegations were unfounded.

But that was immediately followed by yet another parasite who claimed Barkley punched him in the mouth for no reason after the two reportedly exchanged words. His case wasn't helped when he told police he chipped a tooth when he was hit by Barkley, an injury police couldn't find.

Yes, Barkley has become a marked man. He's big, he's good, he's Black, he's got a few dollars, and he won't back down. He also tells the truth. And that, in the long run, is what seems to rile his antagonists the most.

Surya Bonaly vying for the gold in '94 Winter Olympic Games

by Bonitta Best

She started skating, it seems, before she learned to walk. She became the first Frenchwoman to win the European championships at age 17, dazzling the skating world with jumps, spins and leaps that would even make Michael "Air" Jordan envious.

She won her fourth consecutive European title last month, knocking out Ukraine's world champion, Oksana Baiul, and Germany's Katarina Witt, the gold medal winner of the 1984 and 1988 Olympics.

She's Surya Bonaly, 20, who is turning France and the figure skating world upside down. Not only is she revolutionizing the athleticism in women's skating (she could give the men a run for their money, too), but she is one of a handful of blacks who've gained celebrity status in the lily-white world of ice skating.

"For a while, Debi Thomas was my role model," Bonaly said. Thomas, you may remember was the only black woman to win the U.S. national championships. In the 1988 Winter Winter Olympics, she,

along with Katarina Witt, were favored to win the gold medal. Thomas led after the first two rounds of competition, but fell in the original program and ended up finishing third for the bronze.

"When she fell, I had to replace her [as a role model]," Bonaly said. Surya wants to become the first woman to perform a quadruple jump in competition. She has completed the jump in practice and exhibitions. Only three men have managed the quadruple in world competition.

But, Bonaly has her critics. Her skating has been derided for being all jumps and no artistry. It's important to note that in this year's European championship, she was first in both the technical and the free program.

Bonaly was born on Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean. A white couple, named Susan and George Bonaly, adopted her when she was eight years-old, because "nobody seemed to want black children." Surya is Hindu for fun. The Bonalys raised her on a diet of only seeds, cereals, fruits and vegetables—no milk, fish, or meat. "I prefer to see animals alive in the field, not killed,"

she has often said.

As two years ago, Suzanne Bonaly had never allowed doctors to X-ray Surya, her hair has never been cut, making her braids so heavy they have been strapped down so as not to interfere with her spins or jumps. Surya is a student of Zen, but has had little formal education. At age 11, she won the under-12 world tumbling championship. It was also when Didier Galliaquet "discovered her." A well-known and respected coach, he persuaded Mrs. Bonaly to move Surya to Paris where his home rink was. They lived in a truck on a parking lot until Mr. Bonaly arrived a year later.

There was a bitter power struggle between Galliaquet and Suzanne Bonaly over Surya's training. Galliaquet even went so far as to call Surya's parents "crazy." After a nine-year tumultuous relationship, Galliaquet and the Bonalys parted ways in 1992. But credit is given to Galliaquet with taking Surya from a jerky, awkward, tomboyish figure skater to a beautiful, athletic and now, artistic skater. All that's left is an Olympic gold medal. And maybe a quadruple jump?

Newark indictments

(Continued from page 1)

popularity remains at a high level, turned up at the news conference to support his "life long friend" Gary

Harris and to "speak out against" the federal government's tactics in the two-year probe.

"They used public money to come into the city and coerce a public official to commit a crime," Gibson reportedly said of the Harris probe. Unless it stops somewhere, it will continue to jeopardize public officials in this country."

Gibson said the investigation

suggest that the now-defunct K&K-Cottle Towing was a government-backed company set up to draw Harris into federal sting operation and that because Harris has always identified himself as an official committed to bringing more minority contractors into Newark, he was a likely target.

"I don't defend any wrongdoing," said the former mayor. "But I'm

not talking about a crook. They (federal investigators) used his enthusiasm to help black people against him."

Having denied the wrongdoing Councilman Ralph Grant, Jr. said "I have but two things to uphold in this community: my integrity and my good name. to the extent that the U.S. Federal Government has unfairly gone after my good name, I will double my efforts to protect the integrity of my person and my family. I stand before you today, giving my side of the story...I love to the good citizens of Newark today, that my loyalty has never wavered. My oath to office never been compromised, and my accountability has never been under question. Justice, when it prevails, shall bear this out."

Mayor Sharpe James could not be reached for comment.

Superintendent disappointed with test results

skills.

Directing all secondary principals and department chairpersons to loosely monitor the 10th-grade instructional program during the 1992-93 school year.

Parent-notification and parent-attendance sessions on the HSPT structure and composition.

The restructuring of the standardized testing program in grades K-12, which resulted in the introduction of the Standard 8 testing program and a

closer alignment with the HSPT.

In spite of these efforts, the district did not meet expectations. The district's five comprehensive high schools had mixed results. At Central

Although Campbell stressed his disappointment with the overall scores, he drew some encouragement for the district's experience with the 9th grade HSPT. When the test was first given in 1985, only 41.3, 30.5 and 39 percent passed reading, math and writing, as a re-

sult of the district's initiatives since 1985, over 95 percent passed the test by the end of the 12th grade.

When students retake the HSPT-11 in April, it is expected that 60 percent of the students will pass reading, 55 percent math and 75 percent writing. In order to ensure that a larger number of students throughout the district pass the April test, the district is intensifying HSPT-11 instruction. Department chairpersons will monitor daily classroom activities to provide direction and assis-

tance to teachers. In addition, after-school tutorial programs for juniors will focus on the HSPT-11.

Students who scored within 50 points of passing, (passing score is 300) will receive intensified instruction to better ensure they pass the test. Students who did not pass all three sections of the test are required to retake failed sections.

The district is notifying parents about the results and is asking for help from parents to ensure that students do better on the retest in April.

Generations Together

The Lampley family still reads together. But now the words really come to life.

Helping with homework is a Lampley family tradition.

One generation always spends time to help the next prepare for new challenges.

Grandma's focus in her day was to read the right books. Now, it's working with her son and grandson to read the right books with the right technology.

"New days require new ways," says Mrs. Lampley. "I'll always take time to help my family deal with today's changing world."

PSEG is dealing with a changed world, too, and is working to find better ways to serve our family of communities.

The power is in your hands